



AfPA welcomes Australia's largest two-year migration intake

Wednesday 29th March 2023

AfPA's CEO, Carlos Rial, said:

"As an association representing the flexible pavement and wider roadworker industry, we express our full support for the Australian Government's decision to undertake the largest two-year population increase in its history.

"The additional 650,000 migrant intakes this financial year will create opportunities for economic growth and ease the chronic labour shortages in our sector, which has had to lean heavily on international governments to procure talent since 2019.

"We applaud the Albanese government for prioritising population growth as a key factor in the May 9 fiscal package and we recognise the significance of this decision in facilitating economic growth in the long term. However, we also urge the government to place a greater emphasis on vocational training and upskilling of Australian workers to address the existing barriers to workforce participation for local talent. We believe that a holistic approach that balances international migration with domestic upskilling is vital to propel our industry forward and support Australia's growth trajectory."

About AfPA

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) is the peak industry body that represents the flexible pavements industry, delivering safe and sustainable outcomes to benefit communities across Australia.

For over 50 years, AfPA has brought together our dynamic and multifaceted multibillion-dollar industry that is responsible for the design, specification, manufacture, construction, and maintenance of all forms of flexible bituminous pavements.

AfPA's members constitute a diverse array of professional organisations who support the industry and are passionate and committed to advancing flexible pavement technology for the benefit of the road user and broader community.

AfPA members include bitumen suppliers, asphalt producers, sprayed surface operators, major consultancies, suppliers (such as equipment providers, line markers and profiler contractors) and all State Government Road Authorities, and many Local Governments from across Australia.

AfPA's Vision embodies three key objectives:

- to support industry be healthy, safe, innovative, and adaptive to change, acting as a platform for industry sustainability,
- to support the national harmonisation of best industry practices, promoting the benefits of the flexible pavements industry,
- to drive a national culture of continuous improvement.